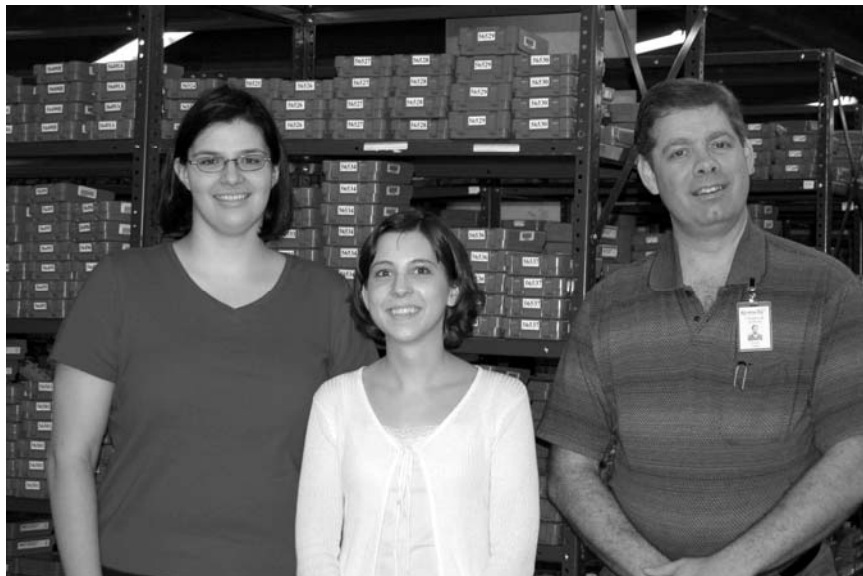


# The Listening Post

A newsletter from the Kentucky Talking Book Library

Number 49

Fall 2007



Left to right: Lauren Abner, Jenny Paul, and Michael Gilbert

## New Faces in the Library

Jenny Paul replaced Wendy Hatfield as a Librarian with KTBL on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Jenny is a native of Wisconsin but has lived in Lexington for the last 4 years. After finishing a Masters in Library Science at UK, Jenny worked in academic and public libraries until joining KTBL. Jenny has two lazy and well-loved cats, one goldfish and more books than she can count. In her free time Jenny enjoys gardening, learning to knit and visiting museums. Some of her favorite authors are Oscar Wilde, EE Cummings, Jim Butcher, Elizabeth Peters, S.E. Hinton, and Michael Chabon. Jenny is looking forward to working with all her patrons to provide the best possible service.

Michael Gilbert joined the KTBL staff on August 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. He manages the distribution of the Talking Book cassette players, edits Talking Book digital recordings, and duplicates and repairs Talking Book cassettes. He resides here

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in Frankfort with Marie Woods, who also works for the state as an Audit Supervisor for the Department of Revenue. Michael's passions include his three parrots (two Cockatoos, and an Amazon), and sport aviation, having built and flown his own airplane in recent years. As a pianist, he loves a wide variety of music, from classic rock and modern country, to classical - especially Rachmaninoff. He also loves poetry, most especially the works of Sylvia Plath.

Lauren Abner replaced Lee Logan as the KTBL secretary on Sept. 10. She answers the phone and writes *The Listening Post*, among other duties. A native of Morehead, Lauren now calls Georgetown home and enjoys reading philosophy, history, and science fiction or fantasy. Her favorite writers include Jon Krakauer, Orson Scott Card, Ray Bradbury, and Albert Camus. She also loves all types of film and cooks whenever she can.

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### Donations

KTBL would like to thank the following people for making recent donations to our library. Your generosity makes our programs possible and is greatly appreciated by both the staff and patrons.

Venice Amburgey  
David & Nancy Bell  
Eunice Clark  
Barbara Cowden  
Ralph & Reba Cotton  
Winifred O. Hale

Marcy C. Logan  
Adeleine Martin  
Rodney, Lois, & Susan Miller  
Richard L. Owen  
Nathan Pierce  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Robey

In memory of Paul Everett: Annette Bailey, Frances Everett, Ruth Ann Hall, Vicki Hall Kennedy, John & Barbara Thornton, the Bill Riley family, and Jon & Kathryn Wilkins

In memory of Connie Raga-Fozza: Betty Bass

If you would like to contribute to KTBL, please make your check or money order payable to the Kentucky Talking Book Library, P.O. Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602-0537. Please do not send cash through the mail. Donations are 100% tax deductible and greatly appreciated by the patrons who use our service.

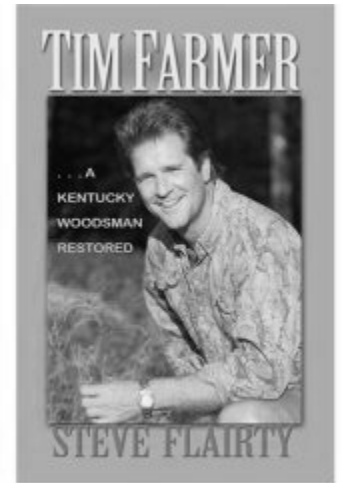
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### Local Author Finds the Extraordinary in Kentuckians

Kentucky author Steve Flairty recently finished recording his book, *Tim Farmer: A Kentucky Woodsman Restored*, in the KTBL's digital recording studio. Flairty, a contributor to *Kentucky Monthly*, originally wrote a story on the impressive

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recovery of the *Kentucky Afield* host for the Spring 2004 issue. Farmer, who lost the use of his right arm in a motorcycle accident in the early 1980s, proved such an interesting subject that Flairty expanded the story into a book. When KTBL contacted him about reading his own material, he saw it as a great opportunity to provide a source of inspiration to a greater audience. He found that the recording process took “lots of concentration”, but he confessed that it was also “lots of fun”. He drew on years of speaking to classes of 4<sup>th</sup> graders to create an interesting and rich listening experience.



Flairty's next book, *Kentucky's Everyday Heroes...Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things*, will profile forty Kentuckians who have overcome personal challenges or displayed extraordinary selflessness. Some of the subjects include a blind and handicapped member of the University of Louisville Marching Band and a woman who overcame institutional racism to become one of the state's greatest benefactors to education. Flairty hopes to finish writing the book by Thanksgiving and have it published by April 2008. And, of course, KTBL looks forward to recording it with him in the near future!

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### Dates to Remember

KTBL will be closed on the following days:

Veterans' Day – November 12, 2007

Thanksgiving – November 22-23, 2007

Christmas – December 24-25, 2007

New Year's Day – December 31, 2007 & January 1, 2008

If you call during regular work hours and get a recorded greeting, it means our staff is busy with other patrons, or we are in a meeting. Please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

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### Overdue

The mission of the Kentucky Talking Book Library, the Louisville Talking Book Library, and the Northern Kentucky Talking Book Library is to provide reading materials in accessible format for registered borrowers who are physically unable to read print. In order to do so, we must rely on the cooperation of our patrons in returning materials on time. All playback equipment and the majority of our books are the property of the National Library Service for the Blind and

**Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress. Kentucky Books are the property of the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, and descriptive videos are the property of the library from which they are circulated.**

**Each NLS library is responsible for ensuring that NLS materials are properly accounted for and reasonably cared for, both while in the library and while on loan to readers. A loan period is designed to allow all patrons an equal chance to borrow materials, and is necessary for us to fulfill our mission—if patrons kept books as long as they wanted, we would soon have nothing left for them to read. It also cuts down on loss—the longer a book is out, the greater the chance of its being lost.**

**I am asking each of our patrons to read and adhere to this loan policy, both in consideration of other readers, and for his or her own benefit. As you are aware, NLS will begin producing Digital Talking Books and machines in late 2008. This will be a gradual process, which means there will not be enough digital machines or books to go around for several years. It is likely that patrons in good standing will be first to receive the new machines and books. Those of you with a history of lost, damaged, or overdue materials may find that you will be last in line to receive these high-demand materials.**

- 1. Our loan period is 30 days. This is comparable to, or longer than, the loan period at most Kentucky Public Libraries. Research has indicated that our books are returned in an average of 3 weeks. The average book contains 2-3 tapes and plays for 12-16 hours, so we feel our loan period is reasonable.**
- 2. The checkout date is printed on the address card of each book. A good rule of thumb is this: when you receive a new shipment of books, it is a sign that you should finish up and return the previous shipment.**
- 3. Each patron has a circulation pattern tailored to his or her needs, with a maximum number of items that can be checked out to them at one time. Once you reach this number you will not receive any more books until you have returned some. We will lower this number if you have trouble returning items before the due date.**
- 4. We will be glad to send as many books as you wish to receive, provided you are able to read and return them on time. If you want to receive books every week, you should only get as many as you can read in a week. If you want to receive books every other week, you should only get as many as you can read in 2 weeks. Otherwise, you should only receive as many books as you can read and return within 1 month.**
- 5. Unlike most public libraries, the Kentucky Talking Book Library does not**

**charge a fine for overdue books. However, that does not mean to imply that  
overdues are permissible or tolerated.**

**6. If you receive an overdue letter, please search your home to see if the book  
can be located. It may have inadvertently been misplaced.**

**7. We expect patrons to return books as soon as they have been notified they  
have an overdue. An overdue letter is simply a reminder, and should not be  
cause for alarm as long as it happens infrequently and the books are returned  
quickly.**

**8. If you cannot find the overdue book, please call the library to report it. Having  
overdues on your record will prevent you from receiving the proper number of  
books. We will mark the book as lost, which will bring your record up to date.**

**9. If you have not finished a book when you receive an overdue letter, you may  
ask us to renew it. We will do so as long as there is not a long waiting list, we  
may ask you to return the book, and we will send it to you again at a later date.**

**10. We make a note on your record each time we send you an overdue notice or  
you report a book as lost. An occasional overdue or lost book is common and  
nothing to worry about; repeated occurrences may result in reduced or  
suspended service. A failure to respond to 3 overdue notices will result in  
suspended service.**

**11. We realize there are sometimes legitimate reasons why you may have  
overdue books. For example, you may have experienced machine trouble; you  
may have been in the hospital, etc...If this is the case, please let us know so we  
can work with you.**

**We want you to enjoy the freedom to read, but remember—with that freedom  
comes responsibility. I want to thank each of you in advance for making a  
diligent effort to follow this policy so that all patrons have an opportunity to read  
the Braille and Talking Books they request. We encourage you to call or email  
your library if you have any questions or concerns about this, or any other topic  
related to the Talking Book Library program.**

**Barbara Penegor  
Branch Manager and Regional Librarian  
Kentucky Talking Book Library**

## **Important Items to Remember**

**Kentucky Talking Book Library**

**P O Box 537**

**Frankfort, KY 40602-0537**

**1-800-372-2968**

**1-502-564-8300 ext 276 (local)**

**Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time zone)**

**You may leave a voice mail message after hours.**

**We want you to enjoy Talking Books. Your librarian will tailor your service to suit your needs. She will be happy to assist you in any way possible. Please do not hesitate to call us for any of the following:**

- **to make book requests**
- **with any questions or problems**
- **whenever your name, address, or telephone number changes**
- **to temporarily stop service**
- **if you want to change the types of books you get, or the number of books you receive**
- **when you have problems with books or machines**
- **if you want to change the format of your newsletters or catalogs**
- **to cancel your service**

**Include your name, address, and telephone number on all correspondence, request lists, e-mails, and telephone messages. We frequently receive request lists with no name and no way to identify the sender. A good idea would be to attached address labels to all correspondence. We have received several request lists in Braille and, since no one here can read Braille, we have no choice but to throw the list away.**

**Please return each book as soon as you finish it. The maximum loan period is 30 days.**

**Kentucky magazines and the cassette version of *The Listening Post* must be returned to KTBL within 30 days. Keeping the magazine or newsletter longer may prevent you from receiving future issues.**

**Remember to rewind all movies and cassette tapes before returning them.**

**Mark an "X" on the mailcard of any defective book. Do not mark on the cassette.**

**Take care of all cassette books, Braille books, and cassette players; keep them free of food, liquids, dust, and debris.**

**Please keep this list for future reference.**

## A Few of Our Favorites

If you would like to read these titles, please call your librarian to add them or tear this sheet off the newsletter and mail it back to KTBL.

For young readers age 4-7 (or the young at heart!):

***The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy* by Jeanne Birdsall**

A modern story that reads like an old-fashioned cross between *Little Women* and *The Secret Garden*. National Book Award Winner, 2005.

□ BR 16282     □ RC 61553

***The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo**

A proud, egotistical toy rabbit passes from one owner to another and learns the true meaning of love. □ RC 62599

***Nicholas* by Rene Goscinny**

The comical adventures of a mischievous French schoolboy and his rowdy classmates. Batchelder Award Honor Book, 2005. □ RC 62698

Sci-Fi Fairytales for senior high and older readers:

***The Princess Bride* by William Goldman**

The most beautiful woman in the world falls in love with Wesley, the perfect man. Their pending romance is interrupted by fate and the wicked Prince Humperdink, Ruler of Florin. □ RC 58817

***Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West* by Gregory Maguire**

After attending university with her roommate Glinda, the Wicked Witch Elphaba learns that a despotic wizard is threatening animal rights in Oz. Some explicit descriptions of sex. □ RC 55810

Adult reading picks:

***Lonesome Dove* by Larry McMurtry**

A vivid epic describing a 3,000-mile cattle drive through the American West. Ranchers, cowboys, prostitutes, and adventures try to make a life in the vast expanse from the Rio Grande to Montana. Strong language, violence, and sex. □ BR 13696 □ RC 22959

***The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic and Madness at the Fair that Changed Everything* by Erik Larson**

Non-fiction work tracing the creation of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair and the rise of serial killer Dr. H.H. Holmes, who preyed on young women who visited the city during that time period. □ RC 55748



In providing information to readers of The Listening Post, the Kentucky Talking Book Library does not endorse any product or service referred to in this newsletter.

# The Listening Post



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P O BOX 537  
FRANKFORT KY 40602-0537**

**FREE MATTER FOR THE  
BLIND AND  
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED**



The Listening Post is available in large print, cassette, Braille, and email formats. Call 1-800-372-2968 to request another format.

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